

# Network

Nottingham Trent University Alumni Association

|

Spring 2007



## Easter's our man

NTU alumnus Nick Easter triumphs for England

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### Front cover:

*Nick Easter in action*

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# Welcome

Welcome to the latest issue of *Network*, your alumni magazine.

We are delighted to celebrate the recent successes of our graduates, including Nick Easter (page 15) who tells us about his England debut in the recent Six Nations Championships; the Klaxons' Simon Taylor (page 4), busy promoting the group's debut album; and Priya Patil (page 6), this year's winner of the prestigious Creative Future 2007 fashion award.

Talking of celebrating, do you have a special graduation anniversary this year? If you're thinking of arranging a reunion, you can get lots of tips on how to organise your event and we can help you to track down your old friends. See page 29 for details about our Alumni Reunion Pack.

On page 7, we have also taken the opportunity to tell you how your donations to the Alumni Fund are supporting projects around the University, adding value to the learning experience of our current and future students.

We hope you enjoy reading *Network*. To ensure you continue to receive your copy, as well as the regular eNewsletter, update your



Ceris Crow and Clare Oswin

details with us online using the password-protected Alumni Online Community at [www.ntu.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/alumni)

It's always great to receive your news and photographs, so keep them coming in, and if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

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# Message from the Vice-Chancellor

There was a tremendous start to 2007, with approvals in place for our ambitious plans for Newton and Arkwright, boosts to the growing Alumni Fund and further recognition of our outstanding employability record.

We received planning permission for the transformation of Newton and Arkwright buildings in October 2006 and work has since got underway. We hope, as Nottingham Trent alumni, you will be interested to see the regeneration of these two key buildings as the work progresses (page 17).

The Alumni Fund continues to have an important impact on student life here and we are grateful for the generous donations we receive from you, our alumni. No matter how large or small your gift, we make sure it gets used to make a difference to the NTU experience of current and future students. If you would like to find out how to donate to the fund, go to page 7.

And finally, the University has received further praise for our excellent employability record. *The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2007* ranked Nottingham Trent University as 'Best for Jobs' out of all universities in England and Wales. Our



graduates' success in finding employment is due to their hard work and desire to go on work placements where possible, the commitment of tutors and our first-rate Careers Service.

We hope you enjoy catching up on all the news from NTU and your fellow alumni.

### Best wishes

**Professor Neil T Gorman**  
**Vice-Chancellor**

# Nurturing science

The official opening of the University's CELS building attracted a diverse audience of science and education experts, and Clifton campus prepares for the opening of a brand new, high-tech observatory.



The new CELS building

## Opening CELS

Nottingham Trent University's Centre for Effective Learning in Science (CELS) was officially opened at the end of March by media presenter and science enthusiast, Dr Adam Hart-Davis. Other key players in the world of science and education also attended the event and they had the chance to take part in hands-on science activities, CELS-style.

CELS is a very exciting national development in Higher Education which aims to make science relevant, accessible and achievable to students of all ages. This is achieved through working with local schools

and colleges to deliver exciting and interactive experiences in science, and by developing better ways of teaching science to undergraduates.

Since its inception as a HEFCE-funded Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) in 2005, over 5,000 young people, and their teachers, have benefited from CELS' activities in Nottingham. CELS is unique among CETLs in developing outreach across all areas of science, covering both traditional and non-traditional areas.

The University's Vice-Chancellor Professor Neil Gorman said: "CELS seeks to address national issues facing science, such as the increasingly diverse range of academic backgrounds of students studying science in higher education; the attractiveness of the interdisciplinary sciences; and the accompanying decline in the number of undergraduates choosing 'pure' science courses."

The new CELS building forms the nucleus of a science education development centre which contains:

- a 100-seat lecture theatre
- three seminar rooms
- an IT suite
- a school lab
- offices
- meeting and exhibition space

The school lab has been designed to provide facilities that are tailored for use by visiting school pupils.

The event took place in the recently completed CELS building on the University's Clifton campus. As well as the hands-on science experiments, there were also brief presentations before Dr Hart-Davis carried out the official opening. At the buffet lunch that followed, attendees had the opportunity to network and discuss CELS' exciting activities and future plans.

The Vice-Chancellor concluded: "The University is proud to be at the forefront of these important developments in science and education, and our CELS building will enable us to achieve further progress in this field."

## A room with a view

The University's new, state-of-the-art observatory is set to open later this year. This excellent resource will greatly benefit students on Astronomy and Astrophysics courses and is based at the Clifton campus.

Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) funding has enabled NTU to develop the £150,000 Trent Astronomical Observatory. It consists of a 5m domed observatory fitted with a 20" modified Newtonian telescope and a separate control room. And the Alumni Fund is set to further enhance its capabilities.

Money from the Alumni Fund has been allocated to buy a high resolution and sensitivity CCD camera to match the capabilities of the telescope which will be fitted in the new observatory. Once equipped with the camera, students will be able to operate the telescope and camera from a computer located in the control room and project images on to a screen for a class of students on the BSc Astronomy course to view.

Dr Haida Liang, Senior Lecturer, said: "We are delighted to receive money from the Alumni Fund. A high resolution and sensitivity CCD camera will be perfect to match the capabilities of the 20" telescope."



Ben Robinson, President of the Astronomy Society, tries out the new telescope

The observatory aims to support teaching and the Astronomy Society, and work with schools and external interest groups will be encouraged. The Director of the Trent Astronomical Observatory Dr Robin Turner (email: robin.turner@ntu.ac.uk) can be contacted for informal discussions by anyone wishing to use the facilities.

# N-ice work

As the temperatures fall, the competition heats up at the International Ice and Snow Sculpture Festival in China.

If you felt the cold snap this winter, it might be hard to imagine the temperatures a group of Nottingham Trent University students experienced in Northeast China earlier this year. They were in Harbin known, with good reason, as Ice City as the winters are long and cold, to take part in the Harbin International Ice and Snow Sculpture Festival from 10-13 January.

The festival, one of the largest of its kind in the world, is now in its 12th year but the NTU team were the first British team to enter. And they were certainly dedicated to their icy art as they faced sub-zero temperatures throughout the trip.

Students Seong Hee Kim, Neil Ward, David Massey and Elaine Bunfield were competing against teams from across the globe. Using chisels, shovels and grindstones, they sculpted to create a magnificent work of art from a four-metre high block of snow. The finished design, *London*, featured a series of open and closed umbrellas, roses and petals.

The team, from the University's School of Art and Design and School of Architecture, Design and the Built Environment, spent a week in Harbin before the event began, improving their skills, and they were supported by partner institution Harbin Engineering University (HEU). HEU gave technical support such as training, design advice and tools, and welcomed their British guests.

The finished sculptures were judged on theme, artistic expression, creativity and technical skill and the NTU team were delighted to come away with a Commemorative Prize for "excellent performance".

Team leader and PhD student, Seong Hee Kim, said: "The competition was very intense but we were well prepared. It was hard work

sculpting all day for four days for the international competition."

Decorative Arts student, Elaine Bunfield, said: "We were delighted to receive a prize, particularly as it was the first time we had taken part in the competition. It's extremely flattering as some of the entries were outstanding."

Outdoor clothing company Berghaus kindly agreed to supply the students' protective clothing as sponsorship for those taking part in the competition, giving them great protection against the icy weather. And with the warm welcome they received from the locals, it's no surprise that the students are keen to compete again next year.



The NTU snow team



The stunning finished sculpture, *London*

Photos by David Massey

# On top of the world

Having braved the cold to reach the North Pole last year, Wincent Kordula is now heading South.



Wincent poses at the Pole

We are pleased to announce that Wincent Kordula (Accounting and Finance 1988) successfully completed his expedition to the North Pole, further to our report in the Spring 2006 issue of *Network*.

Wincent says: "It was a serious expedition of around 70 statute miles and fraught with challenges, but I was quite literally on the top of the world!"

"We were exposed to the cold with some of us receiving some frost nip (me on my nose). But it was an absolute adventure."

Now Wincent is planning an expedition to the South Pole in January 2008 and will continue to raise money for the construction of an MS Therapy Centre in Lincoln.

To sponsor Wincent or find out more about his expedition, contact him by email at [wincent.kordula@btconnect.com](mailto:wincent.kordula@btconnect.com)

# Make some noise for the Klaxons

New music phenomenon Klaxons are on the way to stardom and guitarist Simon Taylor (Fine Art 2004) is enjoying every minute.

It's been an amazing year for up-and-coming 'new rave' band, Klaxons. The three-piece group have been together less than 18 months but they have already scooped the Best New Band prize at the recent Shockwaves NME Awards 2007 and had a top 10 hit with single *Golden Skans*. Meanwhile their debut album, *Myths of the Near Future*, released in January 2007, entered the charts at number 2.

Guitarist Simon Taylor and fellow band mates, Jamie Reynolds (lead singer and bassist) and James Righton (vocals, guitars and keyboard) met through various flames and ex-flames after university but they all had one thing in common: "We came together with the intention of making a successful pop band."

Signed by Polydor by chance when reps went along to a Klaxons gig in Deptford, they initially found success through covers of classic rave tunes and a growing following for their enthusiastic live gigs before their subsequent entry into the mainstream of the Top 40 charts.

"Polydor turned up with meal vouchers for a Mexican place and free cocktails," Simon recalls. "They had an amazing cast of people who shared this vision we had all adopted about wanting to spread this album as far as possible, physically and conceptually."

Dubbed the leaders of the "new rave" scene in London, the Klaxons' music focuses on the pulsating tempo, pounding rhythms and hypnotic vocals of old rave. It also brings together bits of dance, punk and electro-pop and, most importantly for them, their music is a "celebration".

As for what inspires their lively sounds and offbeat lyrics, the band replies: "Anything from the lights that construct the spectacle of live music shows to books, words and nonsense."

"I suppose collage is the tool," Simon admits. "Everything we've ever done or constructed has been a pastiche of other ideas. We've always found the idea of originality alien."

Memorable moments of the past year include playing in Japan, Australia and Europe and "infiltrating and challenging the authority of pop", which has been highly entertaining for them.

They are also pleased to see the evolution of how the Top 40 charts are compiled, which now includes tunes that have been downloaded.

"Hopefully it means records can climb the charts rather than entering then bombing out," Simon said. "I still think it's a little too close to home to be objective about but hopefully

there won't be some zany idea to get all the Beatles in the top 40s or something."

As for their future plans, Klaxons are currently touring Europe. They then head off to North America in April for a tour spanning from New York to Vancouver. And the touring will continue until December, as they travel the world promoting their album and spreading their infectious, eclectic celebration of music.

For more on Klaxons, visit their website: [www.klaxons.net](http://www.klaxons.net)



The cover of their debut album, *Myths of the Near Future*



Klaxons strike a pose (Simon Taylor is on the right)

# Benefits and services

The benefits and services available to members of the Alumni Association keep on improving.

As a member of Nottingham Trent's Alumni Association, you benefit from all this and more:

- News of events, lectures and career related opportunities
- The alumni magazine, *Network*, free of charge
- Regular eNewsletters
- Access to the Alumni Online Community Area
- A 50% discount on library membership (borrowing rights only)
- Associate Membership to the Students' Union
- Free legal advice from the Legal Advice Clinic based at Nottingham Law School
- Excellent deals on hotels and venues in Nottinghamshire
- Opportunities to retain links with your School or department
- Career profiles of other alumni
- An email forwarding service and letter forwarding service to help you maintain contact with other alumni
- University updates
- Information about postgraduate and professional study
- Use of the facilities of the Careers Service

And don't forget, you can take advantage of a professional will-making service at discounted rates, provided by Irwin Mitchell Solicitors. The award-winning firm has a reputation for providing quality, cutting-edge legal services and is the biggest will writer in the UK. Visit their website [www.irwinmitchell.com](http://www.irwinmitchell.com) and quote 'Nottingham Trent University' to benefit from the discounts.

Did you know you can now benefit from some great discounts through the excellent Cottages4You website? Simply go to: [www.chooseacottage.co.uk/nottinghamtrent](http://www.chooseacottage.co.uk/nottinghamtrent), choose where you want to stay and you'll save 10% on your booking. Alternatively, you can call them on 0870 191 7829 and quote: NOT10. Cottages and holiday homes are available for hire throughout the UK, Ireland, France, Spain, Portugal and Italy.

For further information on any of these benefits and services, please contact the Alumni Office or visit our website:

Tel: +44 (0)115 848 8777

Email: [alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk)

[www.ntu.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/alumni)



Stay in a beautiful coastal cottage in Britain...

## Coming soon!

We are always trying to add to our range of benefits for our alumni. Look out for these new benefits which will be announced in the coming months:

- Discounted rates when hiring cars from Enterprise and Hertz.
- Deals for skip hire from WasteCycle.
- Discounted rates with various Nottingham hotels including: Citilodge, Holiday Inn Castle Marina, Park Inn, Rutland Square Hotel, SACO Apartments, Welbeck Hotel, The Swans Hotel, and Premier Travel Inn.

Remember, you can already enjoy great deals on hotel accommodation by contacting Experience Nottinghamshire who exclusively provide Nottingham Trent University alumni with information and discounts on hotel accommodation, venues and events in the city. For more details, visit: [www.visitnotts.com/alumni](http://www.visitnotts.com/alumni)



...or pick up a Mediterranean villa

# Creative future for Priya

Through a flair for fashion and a passion for what she creates, Priya Patil recently triumphed in winning India's Creative Future 2007.

Independent designer Priya Patil (Fashion and Textiles 2004) has won the top prize in India's Creative Future 2007 competition. The talented Nottingham Trent alumna beat 19 other finalists to take the prestigious title for her innovative, high-fashion wraps and scarves.

She said: "I am absolutely overwhelmed to have won such a prestigious prize, particularly as the competition set such a high standard."

After graduating from the National Institute of Fashion Technology in India in 2000, Priya practised as a fashion designer for about four years before coming to NTU.

"At the time, I had my own accessory label that I was retailing in a few speciality stores in New York," she recalled. "It was then that I realised the potential of my product in the market I was retailing in, and decided that I needed to do more research and embark on new ideas which would give me a creative edge over others."

"I am absolutely overwhelmed to have won such a prestigious prize, particularly as the competition set such a high standard."

Priya decided to concentrate her designs on the accessory market after completing her MA at NTU and, within six months, she had secured a lucrative opportunity to go and work for New York-based fashion house Alberto Makali. Here she learnt a great deal and developed her style.

Her collection of scarves and wraps won the Creative Future top prize through the innovative use of textile and Priya has already received a number of business enquiries from around the world.

"This win will hopefully open up a few more doors for me!" she commented.

Priya was presented with a specially commissioned glass bowl and £3,000. She will be in the UK in May to take part in the launch of the British Council's 2007/08 award programme for young creative entrepreneurs.

Creative Future was pioneered by the British Council in partnership with the Commonwealth Business Council and is designed to nurture the skills of young Indian creative entrepreneurs. The competition originally received over 1,100 applications with 20 finalists short-listed, based

on the innovation and commercial viability of their business proposals.

The other finalists were from different areas of the creative industries, including film-making, art, music and photography, and all of them benefited from a two-week residential course at the Creative Future School in the Indian Institute of Management in Bangalore, where they learnt how to turn a creative idea into a viable business plan. The final challenge was to pitch their business ideas to a select panel of judges chaired by Andrew Senior, Head of Creative Industries at the British Council.

Andrew Senior said: "Priya is a worthy winner of India's Creative Future 2007 but it was a close race. Her participation in the British Council Creative Future programme has reinforced her understanding of contemporary Britain as a vibrant hub in the global creative economy."

As a bright future beckons for Priya, she concluded: "I am absolutely passionate about my products and I think this is what shone through when I made my final presentations."



Model wears one of Priya's designs



Priya receives her prize at the Creative Future 2007 award ceremony

# Alumni Fund News

The Alumni Fund continues to provide excellent support and funding for a variety of projects and plans around the University, as our update shows.

We would like to say a huge thank you to those who made a gift to the Alumni Fund in 2006. Thanks to your generosity, the Alumni Fund has helped to create a range of new resources and learning opportunities for students at NTU.

Once again, a team of NTU students enjoyed talking to many of you last autumn as part of the University's annual Alumni Fund telephone appeal. Students spoke to nearly 3,000 former students during the six-week programme and so far confirmed gifts and pledges are in excess of £30,000 with donations still being received. If you received a call we hope you enjoyed hearing from one of our current students; they certainly enjoyed speaking to you.

Heather Mullins, a third year Broadcast Journalism student, said: "Speaking to former students during the telephone programme has certainly motivated me to work hard at University to achieve my goals."

Sian Paley, a second year Psychology student, agreed: "I had a lot of fun and enjoyed participating in the campaign and would definitely give to the Alumni Fund as a graduate."



Sian Paley makes another call

The Alumni Fund was established to add value to the learning experience of NTU students ensuring that our courses are relevant to tomorrow's society and professional world, giving students the additional resources and opportunities they need to fulfil their potential.

Many gifts made to the Alumni Fund are made monthly or quarterly by direct debit. This allows the University to plan for longer term projects such as student scholarships as well as continuing to fulfil an annual commitment to provide extra practical resources.

Over the coming months we will support more projects around the University with the help of your generous donations. In the meantime, you can read about some of the 15 projects supported last year.

## Project progress

A project in the School of Arts and Humanities, run in co-operation with the School of Animal, Rural and Environmental Sciences, has been given a boost thanks to the Alumni Fund. The project is used to train students in the use of field note books, and the presentation and practical incorporation of Digimap database technology online.

The award from the Alumni Fund will enhance the student learning experience and skills development by extending direct knowledge of local small town environments and developing observation, recording and interpretation skills outside the classroom. It

will also help to introduce students to the Digimap database when they will be tasked with creating a small town map.

Dr Alan Dingsdale, Principal Lecturer, said: "The purchase of two A3 printers has enabled students to prepare their own maps and to gain experience using Digimap database technology. This is a real boost to the new module on the BA (Hons) Human Geography and the BSc (Hons) Geography (Physical) courses and will make them much richer and interesting for the students. It will also prepare them for advance study of Geographical Information Systems."



Dr Alan Dingsdale and current student, Chris Mellor, admire one of the new printers

## Helping to keep SIFE



Former SIFE President Cheryl Green

In November 2005 Cheryl Green (International Business 2006) launched the Nottingham Trent Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) team, which now involves students across the University.

SIFE is an international body which – in conjunction with blue chip companies and charities – encourages student projects that both contribute to the community and resemble the real life managerial challenges that students will face on graduation. The NTU team has undertaken a range of community projects including teaching entrepreneurial skills to local hair and beauty students and helping young adults with severe learning difficulties to run a business via eBay.

Their achievements were so impressive that within just a few months the team had scooped a Spirit of SIFE Award.

Now SIFE will be given a boost by receiving an Alumni Fund disbursement to help them raise awareness of the team's work, including developing their website and producing promotional materials.

Cheryl said: "My work as SIFE President, taking the team to the national competition in London and winning an award, was the highlight of my time at NTU and I am delighted that Alumni Fund donations will help the SIFE team to continue their work now that I have graduated."

## Mobile learning

Thanks to the Alumni Fund, part-time and distance learning students in the School of Education now have access to five transportable boxes of key texts and other resources to support independent study.

Dr Gill Richards, Principal Lecturer in the School of Education, said: "I'd really like to thank everybody involved in creating this 'mobile library'. The book boxes have been really popular with the CPD groups in the community."

## Lab pack

Chemistry students joining the University last October received a 'laboratory pack' using donations from the Alumni Fund. The pack contained personalised lab coats, safety glasses and other necessary items for their laboratory work.

First year Chemistry student Kiran Sandu said: "I was delighted with my laboratory pack. It's been very useful and the lab coats are really smart. It was a great welcome to the University and one thing less to worry about when I arrived in Nottingham for the start of my course."



Chemistry students enjoy the benefits thanks to the Alumni Fund

## Head space

Over a number of years, English students on the Clifton campus have often requested rooms for subject, social and literary readings. Now old office space has been transformed to create more quiet study spaces for all students, including reading rooms and study rooms.

Dr Lynne Hapgood, Academic Team Leader, said: "This really is a wonderful addition to facilities on Clifton Campus. Until now the library has been the only study area on site and these new rooms provide an additional space for quiet reading and independent study. We are grateful to alumni for making this happen and have acknowledged our appreciation with a sign outside the building."

The rooms will be called 'The Henry Kirke White Reading Rooms' after an 18th-century poet who lived in Clifton and wrote a poem about the town.

## Making a donation

For information on how to make a contribution to the Alumni Fund, including how to give shares and make provision for the University in your will, please contact the Development Office on **0115 848 8775** or email **alumni@ntu.ac.uk**

Remember, you can make even more of a difference if you Gift Aid it! If you are a UK tax-payer and you agree to Gift Aid your donation, it will be worth almost 30% extra to the University.

## Making the difference

£5,000 = five new student scholarships

£500 = a new short-term loan collection for the library

£100 = funding towards projects that give students additional industry or business-focused experience

£50 = an extra copy of that crucial text on the reading list

# Really Wild Show

Paul Waterhouse's career got off to a flying start after completing his BSc (Hons) Wildlife Conservation in 2006.

When Paul Waterhouse (Wildlife Conservation 2006) took part in a project focused on restoring the osprey to England as a breeding species in his final year, little did he know that it would lead to a full-time position. As Osprey Project Information Officer at Anglian Water / Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust, Paul has found a job which allows him to follow his passion for wildlife. And he shares this enthusiasm with others on a daily basis.

As part of his job, he now gives presentations and talks to members of the public and professional visitors about the Osprey Project, including the history of the translocation of birds from Scotland to Rutland Water. He also gives guided walks around Rutland Water Nature Reserve to see the ospreys, and oversees volunteers who come to work on the project.

"There is no typical day working on the reserve which is what makes the job really interesting," Paul said.

His ornithological skills have developed greatly, along with his ability to identify wildlife and his general knowledge in the field. He has also improved his public speaking skills.

Working on the Osprey Project in his final year gave Paul a real career boost and in fact he was offered his current job before he had graduated.

"Information gained on my course gave me the knowledge and experience necessary to fulfil the role and I was offered the job while in my third year," he added.

His final-year study focused on the behaviour of young ospreys before they were released into the wild, after being fitted with rings and radio transmitters to monitor their movements. He would spend around six hours a day monitoring the birds.

A highlight of his time at Rutland so far has been seeing two Rutland-bred osprey chicks return to Rutland, the first time a naturally raised osprey has returned to England in over 150 years.

Paul concluded: "It was a privilege to get involved in such an important project. And being appointed to this job rounded off my degree perfectly."

As for the future, for the moment Paul wants to stay in raptor conservation but one day he hopes his skills and knowledge will take him overseas.



Paul Waterhouse at work

## Getting exotic at Brackenhurst

As the first British university to offer a degree focusing on exotic animals, NTU welcomed the first cohort of students in September 2006.



Bob Lawrence

BSc (Hons) Animal Science (Exotic) is the UK's first animal science degree course to look specifically at exotic animals. Based at NTU's Brackenhurst campus, the three-year course is intended to provide students with a sound knowledge and

understanding of exotic animal biology. More importantly, it will also help place graduates into vital careers, working with animals in the wild and in captivity.

As this degree is quite flexible, students will have the opportunity to focus their studies on

the species of most interest to them. Prospects for graduates might include further study, educational roles at zoos and wildlife parks, or work in situ abroad as field researchers and reserve managers.

The School of Animal, Rural and Environmental Sciences has a brand new Animal Unit on-site which supports the course and provides the perfect conditions for the study of a wide range of species including companion animals, reptiles, birds, fish and other small animals.

Programme Leader, Sarah Bottom, said: "This course is an exciting development of our animal programmes at NTU. There is a need for specialists in zoo biology to effectively manage and conserve both captive and wild endangered species."

The scope of the degree has appealed to exotic animal experts and newcomers alike, with Bob Lawrence, Head Warden at West

Midland Safari Park, among those who have signed up for the brand new course. Bob has responsibility for more than 1,200 animals from 130 species and his duties include feeding the animals, endangered species programmes, and working for Ongava, the park's sister reserve in Namibia.

He said: "I think this course is extremely important as more and more people in this industry are looking to employ staff with academic qualifications. I'm finding the course very enlightening and am already learning more and more each day."

The School is confident that many more students will come to enjoy these same benefits.

For more information on this course and others offered within the School, visit [www.ntu.ac.uk/ares](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/ares)

# Championing shrews

The Brackenhurst campus is to be the focus of a project investigating the conservation of water shrews, thanks to talented PhD student Anna Champneys.

Having completed her BSc Wildlife Conservation in 2005, Anna Champneys was keen to continue her studies at Nottingham Trent's School of Animal, Rural and Environmental Sciences. She was excited to be awarded a grant from the Peoples' Trust for Endangered Species (PTES), which she will use as she embarks on a three-year project at Brackenhurst and locations across the region to better understand the habitat and survival needs of the water shrew. The results of the study could help with the future conservation of the UK's least-studied mammal.

As part of her PhD, Anna will be looking in detail at the specific features of each watery habitat. This will involve studying water quality, analysing droppings to identify what the water shrews are eating, and recording which other animals inhabit the area. Another aspect of her project will be laying friendly traps. In this way, she will be able to record the water shrew population in each area before establishing their habitat and water quality preferences.

Water shrews are enigmatic creatures. Little is known about them as they are rarely seen in the wild and their footprints and droppings are not easily found. They are the largest of the British shrews, weighing about 15g and measuring about ten centimetres in length. They can be identified by their velvety black fur with a silver grey underside and often have a white patch above the eyes.

This will be the second major study Anna has undertaken at the University. Two years ago she was one of just five students nationwide to be awarded a six-month internship from the Mammals Trust UK (MTUK). Her work at the Trust involved investigating the types of hedgerows small mammals such as mice, shrews and voles preferred to inhabit.

Jill Nelson, the Chief Executive of the PTES and Mammals Trust UK, said: "It is very difficult to identify and address conservation issues in the absence of knowledge about any animal, and water shrews are certainly little studied. The loss of nearly all Britain's water vole population in the 1990s is a warning that, unless we take steps to keep an eye on species and their habitats, it can quickly become too late to act."

Anna said: "Findings from this research will help provide guidelines for effective management and conservation of this much understudied species, safeguarding its future."



Anna out in the field



Back in the lab, Anna examines her findings

# Collaboration celebration

An exciting exhibition Collaborators: UK Design for Performance 2003-2007 came to Nottingham in February and will soon be heading to London.

Nottingham Trent University, together with the Society of British Theatre Designers (SBTD), recently hosted a major exhibition showcasing the best of British theatre design. Collaborators: UK Design for Performance 2003-2007 was shown in Waverley building from 10 January to 4 February 2007 and brought together the work of more than 150 contemporary designers.

The exhibition is held every four years, and a selection of the designs on display in Nottingham will be used to represent the UK at the International Quadrennial in Prague in June 2007.

In previous exhibitions, themes of 'time', 'space' and 'process' have been explored. But for this latest show, the SBTD and the University's Theatre Design department

turned their attention to collaboration, an essential part of design for performance.

Celebrating the partnership of designers with directors, writers, composers, choreographers and performers, the exhibition also highlighted the creativity, diversity and innovation of the designer in communicating with the audience.

Nottingham Trent has produced some phenomenal talent in the field of theatre design and 21 alumni had work included in the exhibition.

Designs featured in the exhibition ranged from startling fringe performances to elaborate international ballet and opera, from West End musicals to small-scale touring productions. There were also performance space designs for Northern Stage Company,

Wexford Opera House and Siobhan Davies Dance Studios, as well as a collective exhibition by the Association of Lighting Designers, and displays by individual lighting designers and, for the first time, sound designers.

Kate Burnett, Hon. Secretary to the SBTD and Reader in Theatre Design at Nottingham Trent University, said: "We had some of the very best and most innovative UK design for performance in this exhibition. This was a rare and fabulous resource for students, teachers, children and anyone interested in the art, craft and design of performance."

Look out for this visual feast of an exhibition later in 2007 when it will be on display at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.



Ian Westbrook's sets are visually stunning

Photography by Eric Brickles Photo Services, Cromer, Norfolk



Lili Rogué created the set and costumes for "Eyecatcher"



A scene from "Eyecatcher"

In the catalogue that accompanied this excellent exhibition, three exceptional alumni were featured in detail:

Work from Set Designer and Lighting Designer Ian Westbrook (Creative Arts 1986) in the catalogue was from "Seaside Special 2006 Variety show" held at Openwide International Ltd, Pavilion Theatre, Cromer Pier, Norfolk, June-September 2006.

He said: "I have designed these shows since the mid 1980s and a strong collaboration between the director and designer are essential. Creating up to 30 visually exciting sets each year on a tiny stage space is also part of the challenge."

Lili Rogué's (Theatre Design 2004) work as Set and Costume Designer was in the catalogue from "Eyecatcher" by Richard Hurford (October 2005) at Sheffield Theatres Studio and on tour in February 2006.

She said: "Concentrating on the unknown side of the Greek myth of Perseus' encounter with the Gorgon, Medusa, the visual was created through an ongoing collaboration between designer, writer and director. The resulting set and costumes were highly detailed, with a timeless quality."

As well as two designs for Nottingham Playhouse in the exhibition, Set and Costume Designer Helen Fownes-Davies (Theatre

Design 1995) had work in the catalogue from "Safahr - Telling the Tales of a Journey" by Dinos Aristidou and Therese Collins (2004), the Birmingham Royal Ballet, The Birmingham Hippodrome, February 2004.

She said: "Over 500 young people and community members from six schools were involved in this production, all working alongside professional artists. A direct, creative response was the key to capturing the essence and style of the participants' own ideas, while maintaining a high level of production values for both set and costume."



Helen Fownes-Davies' designs



Helen's designs were brought to life on stage for Safahr

# Celebrating success

The time has come to honour our alumni and you can help us to choose the recipient of the 2007 award.

We have known for some time that our graduates go on to lead varied and successful lives after NTU so we are pleased to announce the introduction of a new award to acknowledge your achievements and successes.

We plan to present the first "Alumnus / Alumna of the Year" award at the November 2007 NTU Awards Ceremonies in Nottingham. But before then we need your nominations.

Do you know any friends, relatives, employees, managers or colleagues who studied at NTU (or any of its predecessor institutions\*) who deserve recognition for their achievements?

Have they made an outstanding, noteworthy achievement in sport, the arts, science, academic or public life? Do you know any NTU alumni who have made a major contribution to the lives of others? We will consider candidates who have shown:

- professional success demonstrated by notable career achievements;
- extraordinary community involvement;
- meritorious heroism;
- significant volunteerism or philanthropy.

Nominations should include the following information:

- Name of alumnus / alumna
- Subject of study (if known)
- Year of graduation (if known)
- A description, in no more than 200 words, of the contributions or achievements which makes them deserving of this award.
- Your name
- Your contact details
- Details of your relationship with the nominee

Additional information such as press cuttings, a CV, or web links can be included in support of your nomination.

The nominee must have studied at Nottingham Trent University or one of its predecessor institutions\* and must have already graduated and be on the Alumni Association's database.

To make a nomination, in confidence, please send details by email to [alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk) or by post to Clare Oswin, Alumni Office, Nottingham Trent University, Burton Street, Nottingham, NG1 4BU.

**The deadline for nominations is Thursday 31 May 2007.**



\*NTU's predecessor institutions include: Nottingham and District Technical College, Nottingham Regional College of Technology, Nottingham College of Art and Design, Nottingham College of Education, Brackenhurst Farm Institute, Brackenhurst College, Trent Polytechnic and Nottingham Polytechnic.

## Your vital statistics!

How your data can help the Higher Education Statistics Agency carry out important projects aimed at keeping current students aware of employment opportunities open to them.

The Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) recently launched an ambitious project to track the early career paths of graduates three and a half years after leaving higher education. This will take the form of a follow-up (longitudinal) questionnaire.

You may recall completing a questionnaire as part of the Higher Education Statistics Agency's (HESA) Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey six months after you finished your studies. The information you provided then, about your work or further study situation, allowed us to learn more about the experiences of our graduates and to inform current students about the employment opportunities available to them. Statistics were also returned to HESA to inform government policy development and review.

All universities are obliged to report to HESA and, in future, this may involve us sharing your contact details with research organisations contracted by HESA to carry out the DLHE survey. Any information you choose to provide will help in reviewing and promoting courses, including giving current and future students an insight into early career progression.

The first NTU graduates to be contacted as part of this new project will be those who left in the 2003/04 academic year and your contribution will prove invaluable. However, if you do not wish to be included in DLHE surveys, please contact the Alumni Office. We will ensure your information is not passed on and we will continue to send you information directly from your Alumni Association and NTU only. If you indicated you didn't want to take part in future government surveys when you

completed the original DLHE form, the Alumni Association already has a record of your wishes.

We take your confidentiality very seriously and are therefore taking this opportunity to inform you of a change to our Data Protection Statement. Please take a moment to review our revised Data Protection Statement which is printed in full on the cover sheet sent with this issue of Network. Please note that we do not share your data with third parties but the DLHE survey is an important exception. Further information about Data Protection, the DLHE survey, and what the University does with your data is available at [www.ntu.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/alumni)

# City delights

Mike Blackburn (Combined Studies in Sciences 2000) winned and dined his fiancée at the Lace Market Hotel after winning our 2006 'update your details' promotion.



Mike Blackburn in the Atlas Mountains

Mike Blackburn had a luxurious start to 2007 after he took part in our latest 'update your details' promotion. The former teacher joined the RAF in 2002 and moves around frequently so this prize gave him the perfect opportunity to revisit old haunts in Nottingham.

He came back to the city with his fiancée Rachael (they are due to marry in April 2007) on a weekend break at the Lace Market Hotel.

"The hotel was very nice and the staff were pleasant," Mike said. "The hotel room was comfortable and we had a lovely evening on our first night when we made use of the hotel's restaurant."

The couple made the most of their weekend, visiting various pubs that Mike used to frequent as a student and some of the new ones too.

"We also shopped, making the most of the January sales, dined out and went clubbing," Mike added. "The weekend went very quickly though. There is too much to do in Nottingham for a weekend to do the city any justice!"

Mike enjoyed his time as a Nottingham Trent student. He said: "I met some good people and some interesting characters, and I always look back on my time at Nottingham Trent with fond memories."

If you would like to revisit your time in the city, why not take a short break at the Lace Market Hotel: [www.lacemarkethotel.co.uk](http://www.lacemarkethotel.co.uk)

For more details on what to see and do in and around Nottingham, go to the Experience Nottinghamshire website:

[www.visitnotts.com/alumni](http://www.visitnotts.com/alumni)



Lace Market Hotel

# Your Alumni Association Survey



A survey is due to be mailed to alumni from selected graduation years. Our survey asks for your views on the Alumni Association, the communications you receive from us

and university life in general. Your input is vital to Alumni Association activities and helps to inform the University on a range of issues related to graduate employability. If you don't receive a survey this time, look out for one in the future; we will be contacting your graduation year in due course.

If you receive a survey don't delay in returning it to us. Fill it in and send it back to us before the deadline of 15 June to be entered into our prize draw to win a luxury weekend break at the Nottingham Belfry, arranged by Experience Nottinghamshire.

You might also be able to help us trace some of those alumni who are not in touch with the Alumni Association by completing the 'Friend-Finder' form enclosed with the survey. Alternatively, drop us an email:

[alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk). And, if you have any photos from your student days, don't be shy: send them in for our website gallery. We look forward to hearing from you.

## Update your details

Updating your details could win you a great prize, like it did for Mike, but it's also a great way of keeping in touch with us and continuing to be a part of the rapidly growing Nottingham Trent alumni community.

Whenever you move on, let us know where you are and what you're doing in your life and career. We'll keep sending you all the latest news about the University, alumni events and promotions.

Wherever you are in the world, with Alumni Online it couldn't be easier for you to keep in touch. Membership of our online community enables you to update your details, search for friends, post a business card and get involved in reunions, all from a secure site with password protection. We hope to be able to offer you new services in the near future, too, so if you haven't registered already, get online! It's easy: just visit

[www.ntu.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/alumni)

We look forward to hearing from you.

# Easter scores

Former Nottingham Trent student Nick Easter (Mathematics in Science 1999) took the Six Nations Championships by storm for England.

Following a string of impressive performances this season, rugby star Nick Easter was thrilled to be chosen to play for England in the RBS Six Nations Championships. His full international debut came after a successful few years playing for NEC Harlequins and helping them regain their Guinness Premiership place.

When Nick found out he had been selected for the England first team, when they played Italy in the Six Nations earlier this year, it came as a real surprise.

He said: "I was gob-smacked, when I was told. [England coach] Brian Ashton's first words to me when I arrived in the hotel reception in Bath were 'congratulations, you are in the starting XV'."

Nick studied Mathematics in Science while at NTU, where he "burnt the candle at both ends". After graduating, he spent a year playing rugby in Cape Town before taking up a job in the City.

"I didn't know whether the professional rugby route was the one for me," he explains, "and there weren't too many clubs looking anyway, so I joined an investment fund company."

Within six months, he had quit his city job and joined Orrell as a full-time player. After three seasons there and a stint at Rotherham, the chance came to play for NEC Harlequins.

"Mark Evans [then the Harlequins coach, as well as chief executive] told me: 'I'm not actually looking for a back-row forward, but I feel in a generous mood. You can have three months, take it or leave it'. I took it, of course."

Nick joined NEC Harlequins in August 2004. He made his first appearance as back-row forward for the club in the Zurich A League victory over Saracens on 6 September that year. A couple of months later, he scored two tries and was man-of-the-match for the First XV in the Quins 40-10 victory over Saracens at the Stoop. He was named 'NEC Player of the Year' for the 2004/05 season, an award he won once more at the end of the 2005/06 campaign, having scored 19 tries during the season.

And his success speaks for itself. Now capped twice for England, the international world of rugby has found a new star in Nick Easter.



Nick Easter in action

# Hockey star

Winning the title Great Britain Hockey Athlete 2006 topped off a fantastic year of sporting success for Business student Crista Cullen.

Accomplishing international success alongside full-time studies is no mean feat. But hockey star Crista Cullen, now in her final year at NTU studying BA Business Studies (Strategy and Entrepreneurship), is taking her major sporting achievements all in her stride.

And what a year she has had. She was a member of the bronze medal winning England hockey team at the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne and went on to be crowned Great Britain Hockey Athlete of the Year 2006. She was also named as the Hockey Writers Club Player of the Year in January.

The England team also won gold at the World Cup Qualifying tournament in Rome in April 2006 and narrowly missed out on the semi-finals at the Samsung Women's Hockey World Cup. England eventually finished in seventh place, but Crista was recognised as one of the players who excelled at the World Cup and was selected for the FIH World Stars XI.

Aside from her international commitments, Crista plays for Leicester Hockey Club, which was recently named BBC East Midlands' team of the year, and she was part of the team which won the Premier Division and Super Cup during the 2006/07 season. The team were also bronze medallists in the EuroHockey Cup Winners Cup.

Crista hopes that the England team will qualify for the Olympic Games in 2008.

She said: "It was amazing representing England, especially as we played in Australia where there is such a passionate ethos for the sport. We won the Bronze medal playing against New Zealand and this was a great achievement for us all."

There's an exciting future ahead for one of NTU's rising sporting stars.



Crista Cullen takes control

# Howzat?

England cricket legend Jane Smit just keeps on breaking the records and she is now the world's most successful wicketkeeper.

Nottingham Trent alumna Jane Smit (Sport Science 1994) is revelling in her international cricketing success, recently becoming only the fourth woman in the world to have played in 100 One Day International (ODI) matches.

This personal triumph was commemorated by the presentation of a very special cricket bat. It was given to her by the England and Wales Cricket Board during the second Test Match against India at Taunton at the end of August 2006.

"We were heading off for tea on the first day and suddenly everybody stopped in front of the pavilion before going off the field," she said. "I wondered what was going on and then they made the presentation of the bat. It was a complete surprise but a very nice one."

In addition to her ODI caps, Jane has also played in 21 Test Matches and in 2005 she was part of the side that reclaimed the women's version of the Ashes from the Australians for the first time in 42 years.

"That was a real career highlight for me, winning the Ashes in 2005, the same year as the men won them," she recalls. "The whole experience of winning and the bus parade through London and Trafalgar Square is something I will never forget."

Jane has come a long way since her cricketing debut in 1985 when, aged 13, she stood in for an absent player in her younger brother's Rutland under-15 team. She continued to play for the boys' team even when she took up women's cricket.

She first played for England back in 1992 in a Test Match against Australia in Sydney. In 1993 she became England's wicketkeeper in the team that played in the World Cup. That year England went on to win the Cup, playing the final at Lords where they beat New Zealand by five wickets. The 1993 win was followed by further World Cup appearances in India 1997, New Zealand 2001 and South Africa 2005.

In February 2007, she was a member of the England team that took part in a quadrangular series (called the World Series) comprised of the best four teams in the world: Australia, New Zealand, India and England. And this summer, she hopes to be part of the one-day series and 20/20 series against New Zealand.

And the record-breaking continues for Jane. She holds a share in England partnership records for the fourth and fifth wickets: in 1997 at Pune in India, Jane and Charlotte Edwards added an unbroken stand of 131 for the 4th

wicket, then in 2003 in New Zealand for the fifth wicket Jane and Claire Taylor added a record 188.

"When the time comes to retire from international cricket, they will have to push me out of the side," said Jane. "I don't think I could take that decision for myself. As long as I feel fit and as long as I'm still playing well, I want to carry on. If you are good enough, it doesn't matter how old you are."



Jane Smit holds her prized bat

## World Cup dreams

Alumna Hayley Glenn combines her love of teaching with a passion for indoor cricket that has seen her playing for England.



Hayley Glenn

At the age of 24, and with 17 international caps, Hayley Glenn (Psychology and Educational Development 2004) has already experienced competing against Australia in the Indoor Cricket Ashes

Series in 2003, as well as the Women's Indoor Cricket World Cup in Sri Lanka in 2004. And last October she was selected for the England team that took part in an international tour of South Africa.

"The tour provided an amazing experience that provided the opportunity to play against the two best teams in the world, South Africa and Australia," Hayley said.

Hayley enjoyed watching and playing against some of the best indoor cricketers in the world. The team also had the chance to play in some of the best indoor cricket arenas in the world, with some of the biggest crowds that they have ever experienced.

A particular highlight for Hayley was captaining the England team in the final game of the tournament against Australia: "It was an incredible honour for me."

The England team is now preparing for the Indoor Cricket World Cup in Bristol this September. It will be played in a new centre, owned and run by Action Sports, a South African company that provides a venue for indoor cricket, netball and volleyball.

"It is particularly exciting that the new centre is hosting the World Cup," Hayley continued, "and it will have many similar features to some of the centres we

experienced playing in when we were in South Africa, which were fantastic."

Alongside her impressive cricketing career, Hayley works at Castle College Nottingham as a tutor on the pre-16 provision, a behaviour management programme. She has worked there for two years and, throughout that time, she has had a lot of support from her employers for her cricket.

She is currently working hard on returning to full fitness after undergoing ligament reconstruction surgery, and she hopes to participate in as much of the remaining indoor cricket season as possible in readiness for the World Cup in September.

"I am hoping to have a good season playing outdoor cricket, too, developing my spin bowling and batting at the top of the batting order," Hayley explained. "I hope this will contribute to future success in the indoor version of the game."

# Sparkling future for City site

Work begins on a major regeneration project to transform Newton and Arkwright as planning approval is finally granted.

Ambitious plans to create a new focus for the City site at Nottingham Trent University were approved in October 2006. And work has now begun on the £70 million flagship scheme of the University's estates regeneration strategy, to redevelop Newton and Arkwright buildings. The transformed heart of the campus is due for completion in the summer of 2009.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Neil Gorman, described his pleasure upon receiving planning approval: "This is a significant investment for the University and one which we are obviously very excited about. The scheme will not only

enhance the University's national and international reputation as a dynamic and forward-thinking institution, but will also be a key part of our contribution to the regeneration of this city."

The designs are by award-winning Hopkins Architects who were shortlisted in this year's prestigious RIBA Stirling Prize for the Evelina Children's Hospital in London.

Combining creative imagination and rational logic with empathy for the University's vision, the designs will include considerable sympathetic refurbishment of

the Grade II\* listed buildings to maximise the usable floor space within them. An impressive, glazed roof atrium and walk-round balcony between the two buildings will stand in place of the current Newton Yard Car Park and will form an inspiring focal point for staff and students in the City site. There will also be an outdoor quadrangle and a new hub for student support facilities.

Ann Scotney, from the University's Estates and Resources department, is Project Manager for the development and she is thrilled that work can begin now planning permission has been finalised.



Newton and Arkwright today

Ann said: “The first phase of activity will involve the demolition of Goldsmith House, which will make way for the new entrance on Goldsmith Street adjacent to the Nottingham Trent University tram stop.”

As both Newton and Arkwright are Grade II\* listed, the estates team has worked closely with planning and conservation specialists for nearly two years – including Nottingham City Council, English Heritage, and other conservation groups – to produce a scheme that reflects their status as city landmarks.

The elegant Arkwright building was built for University College Nottingham in 1877-81. The central wing of Arkwright will be carefully dismantled and most of the building materials will be documented, catalogued and salvaged for reuse.

The striking art-deco Newton building, one of the tallest structures in Nottingham, was built in 1956. Its basement is going to be transformed as part of the project to include state-of-the-art learning and teaching facilities, lecture theatres and IT resources.

The other main contractors alongside Hopkins include Turner and Townsend, construction and management consultancy, and Arup, designers, engineers, planners and business consultants. Construction firm Laing O’Rourke plc are the main contractors and have now taken possession of the site.

As the main contract work gets underway in earnest this August, we look forward to seeing its stunning vision come to life.

## A brief history of Newton and Arkwright

The Arkwright and Newton buildings today form the heart of Nottingham Trent University and both buildings are listed.

The Arkwright building was built for University College Nottingham in 1877-81. Subsequently, the University moved to another site and the building became part of Nottingham and District Technical College. The original parts of the Arkwright building were built between 1877 and 1881 by Lockwood and Mawson, a prominent provincial architectural practice. The foundation stone was laid on 27 September 1877 by Alderman Bowers, the Mayor.

As part of the expansion of Nottingham and District Technical College, the Newton building was added in 1956-8. It was designed by Thomas Cecil Howitt. Born in Hucknall, he was the most prolific and versatile Nottingham architect of the first half of the 20th Century. The building, which is clad in Portland stone, cost in the region of £750,000. Costs for furniture, apparatus and equipment raised the final figure to £1,160,000. The college was officially opened by HRH Princess Alexandra of Kent on Thursday 5 June 1958.



The planned new entrance to Newton



Looking down from the atrium balcony



View from Goldsmith Street

# Top for jobs

Nottingham Trent University's outstanding reputation for employability had a further boost thanks to *The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2007*.

For some years now NTU has been known for the quality of our graduates and their success in finding employment. This was highlighted once again in the latest Destination of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) Survey (published July 2006), in which it was found that a massive 97.7% of our graduates went on to further study or full-time employment within six months of leaving NTU.

These figures were used by *The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2007* to determine which universities in the UK were 'Best for Jobs'. NTU was placed joint second in the UK with Dundee University, beaten to first by Robert Gordon University in Aberdeen, and first out of universities in England and Wales.

This impressive achievement is down to the dedication of tutors and placement offices, and the excellent Careers Service.

Paul Norris, Employability Systems Co-ordinator with the Careers Service, explained the success of our graduates: "One of the reasons is the excellent contacts between the University and employers."

Our links with major employers both nationally and internationally are impressive and include Boots, the BBC and the Environment Agency. The recent launch of a new online database by the Careers Service should help boost these links too as it provides destination data for NTU graduates. The database includes employer details, job titles, salaries and locations.

Can you help? Each year, alongside approximately 5,000 NTU graduates seeking employment, a large number of our undergraduates look for industry placements. If you are an employer, we can help you source the right undergraduate with the skills your company needs. To find out more about offering placements to students, please contact the Alumni Office on +44 (0)115 848 8777 or email [alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk)



# Enterprise creation

If you're a budding entrepreneur or keen to start your own business, The Hive at Nottingham Trent University can help. Read on to find out more.



The Hive, Nottingham Trent University's enterprise development centre, has supported over 80 new business ventures emanating from the entrepreneurial ideas and research of students at NTU.

The Hive provides first-class facilities, service and support for people wanting to start and develop their own businesses. As well as the established enterprise centre in the Maudslay Building on the City site, there are also newly developed centres at Brackenhurst, Clifton and Mansfield.

NTU alumni with an idea for a new business can receive up to three years' professional help and mentoring under the SmarTrak pathway which includes the highly successful Headstart programme. Entrepreneurs can also access a range of facilities, including meeting rooms and office space, and benefit from a broader network of industry, finance and professional contact.

So are you a budding entrepreneur interested in getting your business idea off the ground? Nearly 60% of Hive businesses have been started by Nottingham Trent alumni.

Recent alumni successes include:

- Chris Scarth (European Business 2002) and Dave Francis (Industrial Computing Systems 2004) of Prime Principle, a forward-thinking company that designs

software for schools. They were National Runners-Up in the HSBC Small Business Awards 2006.

- Nick Timms (Multimedia 2006) of Digital Cubed, which designs high impact multimedia presentations. He won the Airtime Award for Most Entrepreneurial Young Company.
- Simeon Hartwig (Design Studies 2003) who was accorded the most entrepreneurial business idea in Nottingham during last year's Enterprise Week and was also runner-up in the Sir Paul Smith Enterprise Award for his new designer clothing label, Bantum.
- Michelle Dhillon (Newspaper Journalism 2004), who will launch *NG Magazine* in April 2007 to provide a groundbreaking online listings and entertainment magazine for Nottingham. She said that The Hive has provided her with an essential foundation for her to start her own media company: "The impressive resources that are available to young entrepreneurs in The Hive have enabled me to set up an exciting new resource for the city. Watch this space!"

For more information, visit the website at [www.ntu.ac.uk/businesshive](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/businesshive), call +44 0115 848 4354 or email [businesshive@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:businesshive@ntu.ac.uk)

# Betting on research

As the world of online gambling continues to grow, researchers at Nottingham Trent University head some major studies into gambling behaviour and addiction.



Many of us like the occasional flutter at the races or perhaps to up the stakes with a card game among friends, but did you know that Nottingham Trent University is home to major Betting and International Gaming Research Units? Both units were recently involved in the world's largest study of online gambling to date, and the International Gaming Research Unit also conducted a recent report on gambling addiction.

*An Exploratory Investigation into the Attitudes and Behaviours of Internet Casino and Poker Players* was commissioned by eCOGRA\* and published in January 2007. The research involved almost 11,000 players from 96 countries and has helped to build a reliable profile of the 'average' online gambler.

The study, as well as being an incredibly useful source for information about online gambling usage and habits, shows how the University remains at the forefront of modern, cutting-edge research.

Jonathan Parke, of the International Gaming Research Unit (IGRU), said: "This is exciting research. Not only does it mark the first significant research collaboration between academia and the Internet gambling industry to date, but it is also the largest research initiative ever carried out in this area."

Professor Leighton Vaughan Williams, Director of the Betting Research Unit at Nottingham Trent University, commented: "The importance of this research for our understanding of the online gambling phenomenon cannot be overstated. The findings will have a significant, positive role in influencing the thinking of policy-makers, regulators and operators alike."

Findings showed that, on the whole, the majority of gamblers are not "in it for the money"; rather, they play for the entertainment factor.

Other interesting results were that:

- The average online poker player is likely to be male (73.8%), aged 26-35 (26.9%) and play 2-3 times per week (26.8%).
- However, the average online casino player is likely to be female (54.8%), aged 46-55 (29.5%) and play 2-3 times per week (37%).

Those questioned highlighted the best things about Internet gambling as: 'convenience and accessibility' and 'fun and excitement'; the worst things were 'losing' and 'financial implications'. And play seems to take place mainly at home (89.7%) in the evening; however, one in ten women preferred playing in the workplace.

Professor Mark Griffiths, from the IGRU, co-authored the report into addiction, *Gambling addiction and its treatment within the NHS*, with the British Medical Association (BMA). Some of the main recommendations were for gambling addiction to be recognised as requiring treatment on the NHS and that

adolescent gambling should be taken as seriously as adult gambling problems. With the rise of remote gambling, which includes gambling via the Internet, mobile phone and interactive television gambling, Professor Griffiths commented: "Online gambling in the UK has doubled since 2001 and further research in this area should be seen as a priority."

Dr Richard Wood, also of the IGRU, and Professor Griffiths are now in the final stages of developing an innovative and groundbreaking assessment measure to protect 'vulnerable' players from the risks of gaming and gambling. Developed in partnership with Camelot Group plc, the National Lottery operator, the new gaming risk assessment tool is called GAM-RiSC (Gambling Assessment Measure - Risks involving Structural Characteristics).

Dr Richard Wood said: "We were delighted to be asked by Camelot to develop GAM-RiSC and believe the work we are doing will establish a new international gold standard in responsible play measures."



\*e-Commerce and Online Gaming Regulation Assurance (eCOGRA), the independent standards authority for the online gambling industry. A summary report is downloadable from [www.ecogra.org](http://www.ecogra.org)

# On the road

Winning a Roosevelt Memorial Travelling Scholarship led Matt Wallace on a journey of a lifetime around the USA.



Matt worked hard in New Orleans

When Matt Wallace (Communication Studies 2002) headed off on his adventures across America last November, he never imagined the impact this huge country's people and places would have on him. As a winner of a prestigious Nottingham Roosevelt Memorial Travelling Scholarship, Nottingham Trent's Student Communications Officer planned to travel around the States, focusing on "Community Engagement in Universities". But it was his volunteering in the devastated city of New Orleans that left a lasting impression on him, thanks to the terrific group he ended up working with.

"It was a real highlight of my trip," Matt said. "The work we were doing consisted of going into flood-damaged homes, of which there are still thousands, and gutting them to make them ready for renovation and hopefully habitation again.

"It was heartbreaking to see some homes with all the possessions still in there 16 months after Katrina came and went. But I loved the work and the people I met there; the 'Myrtle Beach' gang really looked after me."

This work was worlds away from his life back in Nottingham but then so much of his 10-week trip was full of surprising sights, sounds and, of course, people.

As well as his volunteering, Matt learnt a huge amount about how American universities engage themselves with their local communities. He already had some contacts with some American universities, through

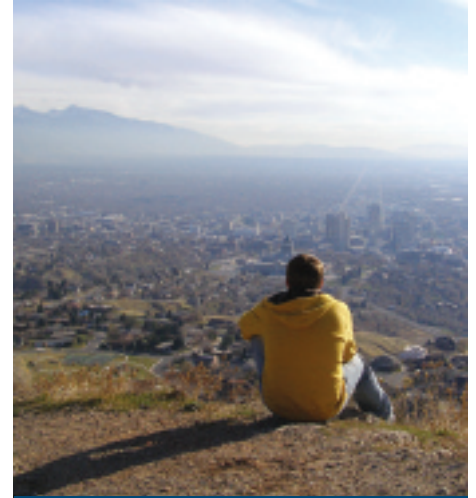
meeting people at a conference in Brighton, and this helped plan his route.

"US universities and their students seem to have a better grip on dealing with community engagement", Matt explained. "They work especially hard at offering resources to their surrounding local communities, whether it's the vast number of students who take part in volunteering projects, or the academic expertise of faculty staff and students."

Matt's first port of call was Providence in Rhode Island. From there he met and stayed with Haven Roosevelt (grandson of Franklin D Roosevelt) and his wife Bunny in their home in Dartmouth, Massachusetts.



Shocking scenes in New Orleans



Spectacular views of Salt Lake City

"It was pretty daunting staying with them, especially when I arrived at their home in Providence, Rhode Island and saw family photos of 'grandma (Eleanor Roosevelt) and granddad'", Matt remembers, "but they made me feel so welcome."

Particular highlights of the rest of his trip were getting to see the 'real' America and the American way of life, especially as he stayed with families, flying over the Grand Canyon in a helicopter, driving on Coastal Highway 1 from Los Angeles to San Francisco and learning to ski in Denver.

"Watching people line dancing in a bar in Denver was also fascinating," Matt said with a grin.

He spent Christmas with relatives in North Carolina, which was a great boost to his spirits after leaving his new friends in New Orleans just a few days earlier, and he was in Times Square, New York for New Year's Eve.

Now back home, Matt is looking to introduce to NTU some of the ideas he picked up from the different universities he visited. And he can look back with pride on his colossal journey, covering 7,000 miles, 11 states and such iconic places as New York, Chicago, Denver, Salt Lake City, Las Vegas and New Orleans.

"The USA is such an awesome country, and there really is no way to ever predict what sort of people you'll meet out there and where you'll meet them," Matt concluded. "The people are far more sociable and friendly than we seem to be here in the UK, and when you combine that with thinking about just how big and beautiful the country is, you can be sure that moving around like I did will make for an interesting journey. I can't wait until I can go back."

To read more about Matt's trip, visit:  
[www.wallaceinamerica.blogspot.com](http://www.wallaceinamerica.blogspot.com)

# Second scholar for NTU

Like Matt, Emily Shelton had her own American adventure thanks to a Roosevelt Scholarship.

It was a bumper year for NTU and the Roosevelt Scholarship as current Social Work student Emily Shelton was the other recipient of an award for 2006. She went over to America in September 2006 and travelled around investigating community art therapy and ways to try and implement such methods in the UK.

Highlights of her travels included the 37-hour train ride from Chicago to Phoenix, visiting the Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation in Georgia where she was treated "like a celebrity", and living and working with Teri Krull, a licensed Clinical Social Worker and Play Therapist in Phoenix.

"Teri and I spent many an hour sharing experiences and practising games that she had developed in working with children," Emily said. "I feel truly blessed to have met her."

Learning about creative techniques during her travels has really sparked Emily's passion for creative therapy pursuits and she is now hoping to study for a Masters in Drama Therapy.

"I look back on the whole experience in America with fondness, despite the highs and lows," she said. "It has taught me a lot about who I am and where I want to be. I am very thankful to the Roosevelt Travelling Scholarship board for making it happen for me."

## Nottingham Roosevelt Memorial Travelling Scholarship

The Nottingham Roosevelt Memorial Travelling Scholarship is a unique scheme that enables participants to visit the USA for up to three months to explore a business topic of their choice, while experiencing the American way of life.

Over 100 scholars have been awarded this prestigious scholarship to date.

For more information about the scholarships for 2007, visit:

<http://rooseveltscholarship.org/Website/home.htm>

# End of an era

Two long-serving Economics lecturers marked their retirement with a joint celebration at Nottingham greyhound races.



Mike Pearson

Economists Mike Pearson and Vaughan Galt came to Trent Polytechnic, as Nottingham Trent was then known, in the 1970s. And both had a really tremendous start to their retirement with a night-out at the dog races.

Mike started at the University in September 1976, as Principal Lecturer in Econometrics, having taught at Manchester University for the previous seven years. For him, the highlights of his time here have been making new friends with different students each year and the team of economists he worked with.

"I'll definitely miss the people I've worked with, both staff and students, now I'm retired," he said.

Vaughan worked in the department of Economics from 1973 and was Head of Economics before becoming Director of the Observatory, a group that brings together local information and research on economic and social issues that inform policies relating to development and regeneration of Nottinghamshire.

He said: "I enjoyed working at NTU and was particularly grateful for the freedom I got to do teaching, research and consultancy."

Over 40 members of staff, past and present, joined Mike and Vaughan at Nottingham greyhound races for their retirement celebration.

Vaughan is now setting up his own economics consultancy, so he won't have much spare time to enjoy his retirement just yet. Meanwhile, Mike says life won't change much for him in retirement: "I'm going to continue doing what I've done for the last 40 years: what I'm told," he joked. "My wife tells me that we are moving to Lancaster."

We wish them both every success.

# Law appointment

From May 2007, Nottingham Law School will welcome Keith Gaines as its new Dean.

Keith Gaines, who will take up his prestigious new post as Dean of Nottingham Law School in May 2007, has been at international law firm Lovells for 26 years and a partner for 21 of those. As a world-class, high-profile litigator, he brings his distinguished management and business development skill-set to bear in his new role.

As Dean, he will be responsible for the leadership of the undergraduate programme and the LPC and postgraduate programmes, as well as seeking to enhance the School's growing research profile.

Keith said: "I am excited to be taking on this superb role of Nottingham Law School Dean at a time when the legal profession in the UK is undergoing such significant and wholesale change. I look forward to this next challenge in my career."

NTU's Senior Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Jones said of Keith's appointment: "We are delighted that Keith has accepted this key role at the Law School. He has the perfect pedigree and international class vision that the

Law School now needs to meet the challenges of the global market in which we are operating."



Keith Gaines

# Bringing history to life

The technical wizardry of Matthew Bates (Multimedia Engineering 2006) has brought the past steaming into the 21st Century at Southwell Minster.



Matthew Bates

Encouraging primary school children to enjoy history takes creativity and flair. And that's just what inspired Matthew Bates when he devised his superb multimedia package.

The computer-aided learning package takes characters and stories embedded in the carvings and windows of 900-year-old Southwell Minster, and brings them to life to guide the children through a series of educational exercises. It is aimed at children aged 5-11 and was developed in close collaboration with the Minster's schools outreach programme: Time Travelling. The team plans to use the software in their own work, which typically involves over 8,000 children visiting the Minster annually.

Matthew's fantastic achievement led to him graduating with a Distinction last year and he was also awarded a special course prize. The success of his package was proved when it was tested by the target audience, primary school children, who loved it.

When embarking on his educational tour, youngsters are greeted by a cartoon dragon who guides them through the Minster's visual marvels. Interactive lessons help them learn about the Chapter House, famed for its 13th-century carvings, and they can even carve a picture themselves with the animated help of the Master Stonemason. They can also click on the famous stained glass windows to select and read interactive Bible stories with sounds and moving images.

Matthew's work is actually part of a wider collaboration between the Minster and NTU's Display Research Group. Together, they are aiming to develop different multimedia-based educational packages and an interactive 3D environment to help the Minster Education Department in their work with local schools and children.

The project started as an investigation into the use of immersive 3D models to document the 'experience' of a temporary art installation that was located in a cloister of the Minster which leads to the famous 13th century Chapter House. The stereo 3D interactive model was displayed on a portable 3D stereo projector system at a recent event and led to much discussion about how this exciting use of 3D visualisation technology could help to develop interest in the architecture and history of the Minster, as well as encouraging the public to visit Southwell.

The Minster hopes to have Matthew's educational multimedia package live on their Time Travelling website later this year. It will also be given to schools via teaching packs.

Since graduation, Matthew has been working at NTU in the College of Science and Technology and at Nottingham Trent International College (NTIC), teaching multimedia applications to first year international students. Ultimately he hopes to stay at the University to study for his PhD, researching the effectiveness of multimedia education for school children.

## Mr Mack's back

Retirement has not quelled Malcolm Mackintosh's passion for teaching and he now works part-time teaching youngsters at Manchester United.

When Malcolm Mackintosh (Education 1970) retired recently, he planned to relax and enjoy lots of time on the golf course. But his teaching reputation preceded him; he was asked to work part-time supervising Manchester United's under-16s who have to attend academic classes at Ashton-on-Mersey School Sports College, where Malcolm worked for over 35 years.

Currently, his group consists of ten 14-16-year old boys and Malcolm works with them once a week before they go off to train at Manchester United's Carrington Training Centre.

"They are all excellent lads and a joy to teach," Malcolm commented. "The first thing we do when we meet up is chat about the results from the previous Saturday's game."

Malcolm enjoys the regular contact he has with these young sportsmen and, despite his football allegiance laying elsewhere (he is a die-hard Sunderland FC fan), he hopes to continue to work with them for as long as Manchester United wants him.

Before attending Nottingham College of Education, as Clifton was then known, he had considered a career in football. He played for Middlesbrough FC in his teens and was offered a place at the club when he turned 18. But he declined so that he could study for his A-levels and go on to teacher training. He still says it was the best decision he ever made.

"I absolutely love teaching and wouldn't change a thing," Malcolm said. "Teaching has been so rewarding for me and I've loved every experience."

Over a teaching career spanning more than 35 years, Malcolm taught Maths and PE at Ashton-on-Mersey School Sports College in Sale, teaching around 30,000 pupils over the years, including children of former students. And his influence was far-reaching, with former pupils remembering him fondly as 'Mr Mack' and his own son Chris (now a lecturer at Clifton in Maths, Science and Sport Education) calling his father his role model.

Malcolm has great memories of his time at Clifton. He met his wife, Carol Ravenscroft (Education 1970), on the very first day of college and still keeps in touch with friends from those 'old teacher training days', including Dave Pymont, Jerry Stephens, John Shaw and Ray Lockey (all now retired from teaching) and Barry Moore and Jeff Mapp. And Carol herself shares his passion for teaching.

"Carol has worked at Temple Moor Infants School in Sale for 26 years," Malcolm explained. "She got very emotional recently when she wrote her resignation letter for her retirement as she loves teaching so much."

In retirement Malcolm plans to stay active. Even after a hip replacement in early 2006, he still regularly plays golf and tennis and goes skiing, alongside continued commitments to his Manchester United pupils.

To find out more about becoming a teacher visit [www.ntu.ac.uk/education](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/education)

# Yee ha down under

When Kathryn Gregory left her London life to go travelling, she never imagined she'd become a cowgirl down under.

Horse-loving Kathryn Gregory (Graphic Design 2001) has found her dream job in Australia: working as a groom at Devereaux Holdings, one of Western Australia's biggest polo pony farms. Life today is a world away from her former job as a busy graphic designer in London and Nottingham.

After a year-long backpacking tour around the world in 2004, Kathryn was bitten by the travel bug. She headed off on a working holiday to Australia in December 2005 and enrolled in a 'Jillaroo' school where she trained to be an Australian cowgirl / farm hand.

Her current job has given her the perfect year out, working with horses and learning about polo. Of course, there have been challenges along the way, notably learning how to groom for polo and polocrosse and working in 50 degree heat with no shade.

But she adapted well to her new role "with lots of sunscreen, water and a big hat!" and was asked to stay on to groom for the polocrosse team, which enabled her to travel overland to the National Polocrosse Championships in Camden, New South Wales.

"This was a fantastic experience for me, despite a very long drive in a horse truck," she recalls, "and I even groomed one of my ponies in the Mixed Open Finals."

Kathryn now works full-time on the farm and a typical day will stretch from 6 am until 5 pm. She doesn't play in the polo matches but is learning the basics and she's going to start polocrosse lessons so that she can play on the Perth club team this season.

"It has been an amazing year for me and I really enjoy the Australian culture and



Kathryn prepares one of her horses

lifestyle," Kathryn says. "I can see Western Australia becoming my home for the next few years."

Of course, that's not to say she doesn't miss her old career and the UK.

"Sometimes when I see some really good design work out there, it makes me remember how much I liked designing but I wouldn't swap the outdoor lifestyle I have now to go back to the city!" she says vehemently. "I miss

my friends and family but I've never been really homesick and I don't miss the weather at all."

Provided she can extend her visa, she plans to stay in Australia for several years to come.

"Devereaux is the most beautiful place with lots of rolling hills and kangaroos bouncing all over the place," she says. "It's the sort of place I dreamed about living in when I was younger, surrounded by horses."



Cuddling with a new friend



A polocrosse match gets underway

# Game On

As GameCity hit Nottingham last October, the University was proud to be a key partner in this exciting new festival.

GameCity, the world's first annual interactive entertainment festival, was opened in October 2006 by acclaimed film director Lord Puttnam of Queensgate CBE. And Nottingham Trent University, as a lead partner in GameCity, was at the forefront of organising several events throughout the festival.

Events included GameCity Lab, which showcased new research and innovation at NTU, including a virtual reality headset that took the wearer on a tour of Southwell Minster and Hand to Eye. This groundbreaking two-day conference, attended by 45 delegates, explored the impact of video games on learning and looked at ways that games can be used to enhance educational attainment. Another day was devoted to demonstrating to undergraduate and Masters students their future potential by providing information and advice on getting into the video games industry.

And GameCity provided the perfect forum at which to launch Quest, a new computer game developed at NTU. Quest seeks to teach vital life skills to young people. On the surface, it is simply another game with great graphics

and potential as players seek to form a crew and escape from a volcanic island. However, as they move through the different levels, players face many challenges, each designed to aid their personal development and help improve their chances of finding a job.

It was created by the Interactive Systems Research Group at Nottingham Trent University, working with South Nottingham College, Nottinghamshire County Council's Acorn Initiative and Access Training East Midlands Ltd, who provided the educational input.

The Director of the Interactive Research Systems Group, Dr David Brown, said: "Socially excluded youngsters have been involved in the design and testing of the game and feedback has been very encouraging from a learning and engagement point of view. It aims to improve both personal development and work sustainability skills in young people at risk of social exclusion."

As for GameCity, Technology Transfer Manager Chris Bridges is keen to establish the festival as a regular event in the video games industry calendar.

He said: "By creating multidisciplinary teams from across the University, it has become possible to align our activities and objectives with those of local partners so that mutually beneficial projects have begun to emerge."

GameCity 2007, which will run from October 24th to 28th, is now in development. For further details on events and how to get involved, visit [www.gamecity.org](http://www.gamecity.org)



Lord Puttnam opens the festival

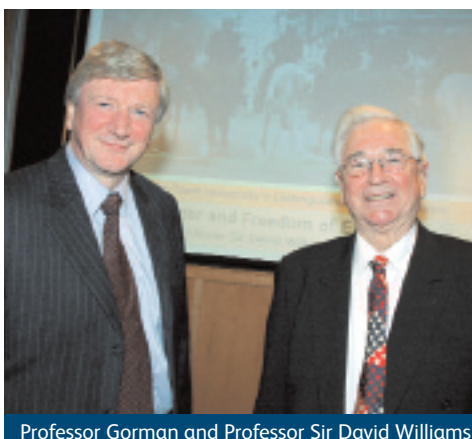
# Lectures of distinction

The first of a new Distinguished Lecture Series at NTU, which will bring high profile academics and speakers to the University, attracted a large audience.

Nottingham Trent University's Distinguished Lecture Series was launched in December 2006. It began with a lecture by distinguished academic lawyer, Professor Sir David Williams, entitled 'Public Order and Freedom of Expression'. The lecture was jointly hosted by Vice-Chancellor, Professor Neil Gorman, who introduced Sir David, and the Nottingham Law School.

A diverse audience, including students, potential students, NTU staff and representatives from local legal firms, Nottinghamshire Police and agencies such as Victim Support and Nottingham Youth Offending team, attended Sir David's lecture.

His lecture was concerned with both the traditional law and principles relating to freedom of assembly, and with the impact of new legislation and new responses with regard to anti-terrorism, race and religion and to new forms of protest. The lecture inquired into



Professor Gorman and Professor Sir David Williams

many pressing issues of legal, political and social concern.

Sir David stressed the importance of caution when introducing new laws, especially in a climate of apprehension. "Laws should be

applied with common sense," he said. "Retaining the right to demonstrate and protest is vital to our society."

Sir David was knighted in 1991 and is an honorary Queen's Counsel. He taught at the Universities of Nottingham and Oxford and was President of Wolfson College, Cambridge, for 12 years and Vice-Chancellor from 1989 to 1996.

He has served on many Royal Commissions, government advisory groups, councils and committees, including Council on Tribunals, the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution, the Commission on Energy and the Environment, and the Clean Air Council.

The Distinguished Lecture Series has been planned as a regular activity that will see guest academics and other high profile speakers coming to the University. Details of future events will be announced on our website:

[www.ntu.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/alumni)

# Reunions

If you're looking to catch up with old university friends, a reunion could be the perfect opportunity to get everyone together. Take a look at our latest reunion news.

## 50 years on

The 50th reunion of ex-students of the Brackenhurst Farm Institute took place on Sunday 17 September 2006 at Brecks Farm in Maplebeck, Newark. And the majority of the class of 1956/57 were there to celebrate.

The class was made up of 32 'boys' and nine 'girls', some of whom married each other. The girls still keep in touch and meet up regularly. However, there were five boys that could not be traced. Where are you Brian Moore, Keith Wilson, Michael Barnes, Doug Johnson and Michael Stephenson?

Following a special lunch, BOSA Chairman Bob Adam updated the group with news from the past 50 years and Rosalyn Sneath read letters and messages from friends who had

sent their apologies. Those members of the class who had sadly passed on were also remembered.

Bob Adam said: "It was a great day and I would like to give special thanks to organiser Rosalyn Sneath, our host Jennifer Strawson, Claire Foster who provided the food and everyone who helped to make this day so perfect!"

Organiser and former Brackenhurst student, Rosalyn said: "We had a wonderful day, one never to be forgotten. We all went home tired but elated."

Most importantly, Rosalyn emphasised: "Remember: keep in touch!"



The class of 1956/57



The class of 1956/57 today

## Class of 1976/77

The Brackenhurst class of 1976/77 are now hoping for an equally successful reunion. They are planning their 30th anniversary get-together for June / July 2007. If you would like further information or know the whereabouts of any Brackenhurst graduates from that year, please contact Jill Asher (Agriculture 1977) via the Alumni Office on **+44 (0)115 848 8777** or at [alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk)

## Malaysia Alumni Reception

Saturday 8 September 2007  
Kuala Lumpur

We are delighted to announce that we will be holding another reception later this year for Nottingham Trent alumni based in Malaysia.

Once again, the reception will be hosted by the Vice-Chancellor Professor Neil Gorman and will provide an opportunity to meet up with Nottingham Trent friends in Malaysia and catch up with news from the University.

If we know you are in Malaysia, you will be hearing from us soon. However, to ensure that you receive your invitation to this event, please use the website to update your details at [www.ntu.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/alumni)

## Calling all Industrial Management 2001 graduates

Andrew Mason and Emma Shaw are planning a reunion for all Industrial Management students who graduated in 2001. The reunion, planned for October 2007, is likely to be held in Nottingham although no final destination has been decided on just yet. Many people have already registered their interest, but if you would like further details please contact the Alumni Office on **+44 (0)115 848 8777** or at [alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk)

# Wedding news

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**Beck Broomhead** Fashion and Textiles 2003

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Married Danny Wallace on 14 October 2006 at St Mary Magdalene Church in Sutton-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire. Other alumni who attended the celebrations included Sarah Stevens (Fashion and Textiles 2003). Danny's aunt and NTU's Alumni Officer, Clare Oswin, was also a guest at the wedding.



Beck and Danny

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**Matthew Deere** Communication Studies 2005

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Married Sammy Zealand on 19 August 2006 at St Guthlac's Church in Boston, Lincolnshire. The couple met in Boston while Matthew was working at a local nightclub part-time. The bride is from Boston and has been local to the area all her life. Other alumni who attended were Gary Beecham as best man (LLB Law 2005), Holly-Marie Draper, Nick Gardner, Rob Richards, James Sinclair and Emma Gray (all Communication Studies 2005). The couple went on honeymoon to Paphos, Cyprus and have now settled in Boston.



Stephen and Sheila

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**Sheila Flannery** Primary Education 2002  
**Stephen White** Combined Studies in Sciences 2001

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Got married on 12 August 2006 in County Roscommon, Ireland. They met eight years ago during their first year at University in Peverell Halls of Residence. Other alumni who attended the wedding were Ali Bramwell (Sport Science and Management 2001) and Nick Morris (Combined Studies in Sciences 2001). The couple went on honeymoon to South Africa, Zambia, Botswana and Mauritius. Stephen now works as an accountant for PricewaterhouseCoopers and Sheila is a primary school teacher in Solihull.



Christopher and Nicola

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**Nicola Smith** Textile Design 1998 and MA Fashion and Textiles 2000  
**Christopher Jackson** Furniture and Product Design 2000

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Were married in a small church in Warwickshire on 5 August 2006. The reception was held in a beautiful barn with the sun shining. Other alumni in attendance were Jayne Goulding, Rachel Dunn, Anshu Shearing, Christopher Bainbridge, Jason Smith, Jamie Buckley, Marie Phillips, Rachel Shortt and James Morgan. The couple met seven years ago at University and currently live in London. They both work as designers and are leaving the UK for New Zealand this year. They both had a great time at university and would like to thank everyone who made their university life so great.



Paul and Zoë

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**Zoë Peak** Combined Studies in Sciences 1998 and PGCE 1999  
**Paul Davis** Sport Science and Administration 1998

---

Got married on 23 July 2006 at the York Pavilion Hotel. Other alumni who attended the wedding were Hannah Beilby (bridesmaid), Anna Huws, Rachel Fursman, Claire Hamer, Kirsty and Piers Barttelott, Tanya and Ben Coward-Talbot, Nina Slingsby (née Crook), Kirstin Newman (née Allan), Roland Zell, Gurpreet Dosanjh, Dan Morris, and Jayne and David Lodge. The couple went on honeymoon to the Far East.



Peter and Victoria

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**Victoria Bragg** Real Estate Management 2001  
**Peter Round** Real Estate Management 2001

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The couple were married on 8 July 2006 at Knowle Parish Church, Solihull. They met while studying at NTU. Other alumni who attended the wedding were Catherine Rodgers, Fiona Collier, Andrew Rich, Paul Richardson, Kevin Murrell, Steven Smith, Michael Setters, Michael Morgan and Daniel Robinson. The couple spent their honeymoon travelling in Canada and now live in Knowle, Solihull.

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**Jonathan Russell** Business and Quality Management 2000  
**Kellie Sanders** Decorative Arts 1999

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Got married in June 2006 in Kenilworth, Warwickshire. The couple met on a student night out at Ritzzy's while studying at NTU. Other alumni who attended the wedding were Sarah Bradley (née Wilkin), Esther Chalkley, Julie Cochrane, Catherine Flint, Emma Morris and Katie Sutton (née Webb). The couple enjoyed a two-week honeymoon in Cancun, Mexico. If anyone would like to get back in touch with Jonathan or Kellie, please contact them by email:

[jonathan.russell2@btinternet.com](mailto:jonathan.russell2@btinternet.com)



Jonathan and Kellie

**Sarah Stubbs**

Human Services 2004

Married Charlie Free on 27 May 2006 at St Mary's Church in Stanton, Ashbourne, Derbyshire. Fellow alumni who attended the wedding were Amy Podmore as bridesmaid (Accounting and Finance 2004), Simon Dudderidge and Caroline Hadfield (both Business Studies 2005) and Tom Potter (Construction Management 2005).



Sarah and Charlie

**Anne Sophie Porru-Laurent**

European Business Administration 2002

Got married on 20 May 2006 to Mickael. The wedding took place at Baume les Dames near Switzerland. The couple went on honeymoon to Sardinia in Italy.

**Matthew Lyons**

Applied Biology 1997

Married Katey Fry on 8 April 2006. The wedding took place at Worcester Chapel of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Alumnus Matthew Alexander (Applied Biology 1997) attended the wedding with his girlfriend Emma. Matthew (teacher) and Katey (legal secretary) are now both living and working in Herefordshire.

**Jenifer Zaremba**

Physics 2005

**Alexander Berry**

Physics 2005

Got married in December 2005 at Holy Rood Church, Barnsley, South Yorkshire. The couple met at high school and have been together ever since. Other alumni who attended the wedding were Alex Needham (Business Studies 2006), Craig Prothero, Michelle Charlesworth and Colin Pearson (all Physics 2005) and Kevin Herbert who is a final year student at NTU. Jenifer is now working for Barclays bank and Alex is a Physics teacher.



Anne Sophie and Mickael

**Simon Price**

Applied Chemistry 2003

**Karen Baghurst**

Primary Education 2004

The couple were married on 6 August 2005 at Keelby Church, Grimsby, followed by a reception at the Stallingborough Grange Hotel. They had a beautiful horse and carriage for the wedding and the sun shone all day. Karen's dog Tessa also made a star appearance wearing a co-ordinated bow and lead in diamond white. The couple met while at NTU in the Clifton campus Students' Union. Alumni who attended the wedding were Emily and Jamie Cherril, Catherine Eastwood with Richard Harris, Christopher Jackson, Andy Robbins, Vicky Cruttenden (née Henigan), Louise Davidson and Lyndsey Kelk.

**Helen Evans**Business and Quality Management 1996 and PG Diploma  
Personnel Management 1998

Got married to Pete Grzonka in July 2005. The wedding took place at St Michael's Church in Aberystwyth. Alumni who attended the wedding were Claire Jones and Rachel Housam as bridesmaids and Claire Evans (all Business and Quality Management 1996). The couple had a wonderful honeymoon in the Seychelles and Kenya and are expecting their first baby in March 2007.



Alexander and Jenifer



Helen and Pete



Matthew and Katey



Karen and Simon

# Past and present

## Fifties, Sixties and Seventies

**Bernice Kozlowski (née Gleadle)** | Textiles 1952

Continuing my volunteer involvement with Nottingham Home Start, appointed to the Board of Trustees of this organisation recently. Also involved in school visits to speak to youngsters about experiences of being a school child during WWII.

**David Grimes** | Business Studies 1971

Worked in UK for three years after graduation (textile industry in Nottingham and Shepshed) and left for Zambia in 1974, for three years in copper industry then to Malawi in 1978, as accountant in trading group and joined Stansfield Motors in 1984 as MD. Got married in 1971 to Diane. Now got two children and four grandchildren all living in Malawi. Still an avid Liverpool FC fan.

**Colin Bones** | Applied Chemistry 1976

After graduating I went to work in Zambia for Roan Consolidated Mines as an industrial chemist. I also worked voluntarily for the United Church of Zambia. I decided my vocation was more to a calling within the Church of Jesus Christ and, on returning to the UK, I was put forward as a candidate for the ministry of the United Reformed Church. I have served for the last 20 years as a minister in this denomination.

**Michael Jackson** | Social Sciences 1979

I am now back living near Nottingham and would like to hear from friends who were on my course: BA (Hons) Social Sciences 1976-1979. Please contact me via the Alumni Association.

## Eighties

**Greg Dunn** | Agricultural Merchandising 1981

After working for just about every feed compounder in the book, had a spell with edible oil refiner Anglia Oils and then eight happy years with Leeds-based oils and fats traders, John Wyatt Ltd. In 2004, I started my own commodities trading house and now have a team of five people trading vegetable fats into edible markets and animal feed, used cooking oil into bio diesel and organic soya meat and oil into specialist feed compounders.

**Paul Bratby** | Applied Biology 1985

Have spent most of my career since graduation working for DEFRA (formerly MAFF), as a plant quarantine inspector. My geographical area

of responsibility is Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and East Midlands Airport.

**Sarah Bott (née Hardy)** | Agriculture for Women 1989

After leaving Brackenhurst, I worked on a farm in Queniborough, Leicestershire until 1997. After a bad accident at work, I went back to college and then worked for New College Nottingham from 1997 to 2004. I now freelance in schools doing IT. Got married in 1999 to James and have three boys: Henry, William and Jack.

## Nineties

**Ann-Marie Delaney** | Accounting and Finance 1990

Too much to say from beginning to end. However, suffice to say that I am now in Spain and have opened an interactive learning centre. Focus is on English this year, but who knows what the future holds?

**Catherine Myers** | Humanities 1992

Had a baby, Frankie, in Jan 2004 and went part-time: best thing I have ever done!

**Deborah Abrahams** | Knitwear Design 1993

Have written and had three books published: *Blankets and Throws to Knit*, *25 Cushions to Knit* and *More Blankets and Throws*. Autumn 2007 will see publication of a fourth book, *How to Design your Own Knits*. I have also been asked to teach in Australia (Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne).

**Lisa Corrigan** | Combined Studies in Sciences 1993

After graduating in 1993, I worked for a bank and quickly got bored. I returned to university and completed a PGCE in Secondary Science Education. Spent 10 years teaching in South Yorkshire and became a coach teacher and champion teacher for LEA. I now work at Sheffield Hallam as a senior lecturer in Secondary Science Education training PGCE scientists, which is scary as I still can't do the Kerb's Cycle!

**Ian Moseley** | Modern European Studies 1993

After spending 12 years in Germany, I moved to Australia in March 2006 to work as a Global Product Release Manager at Products Pty Ltd. The company produces software for high speed printers. I got married in 1998 and have two daughters. Australia is a fantastic country where the people are blessed with a welcoming spirit and the gift of hospitality. I still get to visit England from time to time and also America where my wife is from.

# Ask for an Alumni Reunion Pack today

Are you thinking of planning a reunion but don't know where to start? Ask for your free NTU reunion pack today.

Put together in association with Experience Nottinghamshire, it contains tips on arranging your reunion no matter how small or large your group may be. It also explains how the Alumni Office can help you to get in touch with some of your 'old' friends.

Packs are free. All we ask is that you let us know about your reunion and maybe share

some photographs with us after the event.

Request your pack now by emailing [alumni@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ntu.ac.uk) or calling 0115 848 8777.

If you have a reunion planned, and would like to let others know, don't forget to contact us so that we can advertise it on our website at: [www.ntu.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/alumni)

You can also use the Message Board in the Online Community Area [at <https://alumni.ntu.ac.uk/themessageboard.cfm>] to let all your old friends and classmates know about any forthcoming reunions.



**Margaret Wain** | Further Education 1994

My partner Cllr Michael Wallis and myself are in our second year as Mayor and Mayoress of Erewash Borough Council and have been privileged to meet up with many of my students from South East Derbyshire College. It is so nice to be remembered by students with learning difficulties and disabilities having been retired for six years.

**Andrew Wilkinson** | Urban Estate Surveying 1994

Recently appointed Property Director for Luminar Leisure Ltd, the UK's largest provider of late night entertainment / nightclubs. Having been with the company seven years, it was extremely pleasing to be asked to become Property Director. The new position means a home move south.

**Lee Braddock** | Manufacturing Engineering 1995

At long last I am going to be a father. I would love to get back in touch with Nicola Gale (MEng Manufacturing Systems 1996) to share post-Forrest Gump regrets.

**Anthony Godson** | Computing Systems 1995

Started working for Unisys after leaving university, and still there after more than 11 years. Moved to London with work, but now back in the Midlands with my other half and my two kids.

**Mark Foster** | Print Media Management 1996

I have my own business, providing temporary body art such as henna and airbrush. I work with large companies such as Arcadia providing UV body art for their company parties and events. I also lecture in henna techniques and I am a yearly guest lecturer at the largest henna conference in the world held in Las Vegas.

**Elizabeth Berry (née Brown)** | Primary Education 1997

Married to Dan Berry ('Sport Billy', graduated from NTU in 1993) with four children: Emily, Olivia, Isabelle and Benjamin. Working as a primary school teacher, but currently on secondment as a PE adviser to Surrey schools.

**Ian Clayton** | Business Studies 1998

Gained a PGCE in Business Education in 1999 and started teaching in an 11-18 school in September 1999. I began my current job as Head of Business in an 11-16 comprehensive school in September 2002.

**Andrew McArthur** | Humanities 1998

Living in Bromley Kent. Set up my own law firm in Wandsworth in August 2005 with two colleagues, specialising in criminal defence.

**Lee Saunders** | Sport (Administration and Science) 1998

I have set up a bar in a local town which featured on Channel 4's TV series *Risking it All* in September 2005. The bar is now two years old and continues to grow. Set to get married in April 2007.

**Richard Hughes** | Business and Quality Management 1999

Living in Cardiff with wife Sarah and have a little boy, Ronnie, who is 18 months old. It would be good to hear from old BABQM friends. I lost all contact when I lost my mobile phone.

## Noughties

**Tiffany Hamilton (née Willmott)** | Biochemistry and Microbiology 2000

Married Andrew Hamilton in October 2005. Did a PhD and have since worked at AstraZeneca at the University of Nottingham doing a post doc research job.

**Elizabeth Lloyd-Williams (née Hutt)** | History 2000

It's been a busy year. I married my long-term partner Gareth in September. After returning from our honeymoon in Tanzania, I took up a new job as the South London Hub Co-ordinator of the Mental Health Research Network.

**Allard Hoog** | European Business Administration 2002

I have to say that the year I spent as an Erasmus student was great (2001-2002). It is still a great memory and I think it helped me to get where I am now and with all I have done since that year. The International Student Association did great work for us all year long. I wish we all (me and my friends) could come back for a year.

**Elaine Limond** | PGCE Post Compulsory Education 2004

After leaving NTU, I travelled around Australia for a year working as a personal trainer, supply teacher and sports coach. On my return to the UK, I began working at the Birmingham College of Food where I lecture in sports-related subjects at FE and HE level; I am also a year manager. Since the end of last season, I have been coaching Trent Women's rugby team who I also played for during my time at the University.

**Rachel Moxon** | Animal Studies 2004 and Animal Science 2005

I am currently working as a research assistant for a company in Kentucky which investigates equine nutrition and exercise physiology. My duties include being responsible for the health and welfare of the research horses as well as collecting samples for analysis and some laboratory work.

**Craig Brothers** | Business and Financial Services 2005

Worked for a year as a budget manager in the environmental consultancy industry and have recently become self-employed in the hospitality industry. My partner gave birth to our first child (Matilda) on 19 January 2006.

**James Richardson** | Business and Quality Management 2005

I am looking for like-minded graduates off my course so that I can set up a quarterly forum to share best practice and generate fresh ideas. I joined the Royal Mail Operations Graduate Programme in October 2005, managing an area in a regional mail centre, and I now work on lean principles and operational development at senior level for my Area Management team. This has also led to me being selected for the National Talent Management Programme.

**Vicki Smith** | Theatre Design 2006

I have been lucky enough to get my dream job after finishing uni. I was asked to an interview at the Queen's Theatre and I was amazed to be offered the job as Wardrobe Assistant. I have now been working for the Queen's for three months and I love it! I never thought I'd be able to earn money for doing something I love. Fingers crossed I will have many a happy year at the Queen's and I am very happy to be part of their spectacular team.

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# Obituary

**Frank Henry Williams** | Rural Economy 1950

Frank Henry Williams died in September 2006 in South Africa. During his time at Brackenhurst College he played in the cricket and football teams. He had a lifelong love of the countryside and, after completing his studies, he worked in farming in Sussex before having a change in career. Frank is survived by his widow and five children, of whom the youngest son Clifford is also an NTU graduate. Frank will be sadly missed by all who knew him.



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